

**Appl. No. 10/647,938**  
**Amdt. dated January 11, 2005**  
**Reply to Office action of October 19, 2004**

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Receipt of the Office action dated October 19, 2004 is hereby acknowledged. In that action, the Examiner: 1) rejected claims 1-4, 7 and 28-29 as allegedly anticipated by Major (U.S. Pat. No. 5,250,955); 2) rejected claims 5 and 6 as allegedly unpatentable over Major; and 3) objected to claim 8.

With this Response, Applicants amend claim 8. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

#### **I. EFFECTIVELY ALLOWED CLAIM**

The Office action dated October 19, 2004 indicates that claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. With the Response, Applicants have rewritten claim 8 into independent form. It is noted that claim 8 already contained these limitations by virtue of its previous dependency. Thus, claim 8 should be in a condition for allowance.

#### **II. CLAIM REJECTIONS**

##### **A. Claim 1**

Claim 1 stands rejected as allegedly obvious over Major.

Major is directed to a state entry beacon system. (Major Title). In particular, Major is directed to automatic sensing and recording of an indication of the crossing of a boundary, such as a state line. (Major Col. 1, lines 15-16). To accomplish this task, Major teaches a transmitter beacon station 12 with two yagi antennas 22 and 24 that produce a radiation pattern up and down a highway, respectively. (Major Col. 3, lines 32-48). The yagi antennas 22, 24 are alternatively activated to broadcast location signals, without regard to whether there is approaching or departing traffic.

The transmitter beacon station 12 comprises in addition a switcher 38 coupled to each of the antennas 22 and 24 for alternately switching an input RF signal between the two antennas. The switcher is driven by a transmitter 38 generating signals in preferably the 1.4 GHz frequency band (L-band) at power levels of less than a few watts and ideally at power levels of only a few milliwatts. The transmitter 38 is driven by a modulator/controller 49. The modulator/controller 49 has as its primary function the generation of alternating first and second location signals to alternately switch the switcher between the respective first and second

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**antennas 22 and 24 via a control line 31. The modulator/controller 49 provides switching synchronization signals to the switcher 36 (via line 42). Preferably the modulator/controller 49 produces digitally-generated modulation signals representing packets of information as explained hereinafter, and the control signal on line 31 merely causes the switcher 36 to alternate the transmitter 38 signal output between the first antenna 22 and the second antenna 24 with each alternating packet signal transmission.**

**The modulator/controller 49 may comprise for example a terminal nod [sic: node?] controller which is programmed to send alternating beacon signals through an internal processor. The controller portion could also be a simple external exciter which generates alternating beacon signals and controls the switcher 36.**

(Major Col. 3, line 58 – Col. 4, line 17 (emphasis added)).

Claim 1, by contrast, specifically recites, "a fixed-location beacon associated with a plurality of landmarks to transmit electronic signals containing descriptive information of each of the landmarks... ." The only location with which the Major beacon 12 is associated a state line – a political boundary. Even if the state line was a landmark, such as a river, Major fails to teach broadcasting any information **about the landmark**. Major's only concern appears to be that a receiver subsystem 14 has crossed a boundary. Thus, Major fails to teach or suggest "a fixed-location beacon associated with a plurality of landmarks... ." For this reason alone, claim 1 should be allowed.

Claim 1 further recites, "a viewing direction sensor that determines viewing direction of the user to cause the client device to provide the user with the descriptive information of one of the landmarks at which the user is looking." In formulating the rejection of this limitation, the Examiner relies on Major's yagi antennas 22, 24. (Office action dated October 19, 2004, Page 2, Paragraph 3(a)). However, the yagi antennas of Major are taught only to, alternatively, transmit location information independent of the whether any vehicles are approaching or departing from the beacon station. (Major Col. 3, line 58 – Col. 4, line 17). Major does not teach, suggest or even imply that the yagi antennas 22, 24, or the beacon station 12 to which they couple, should

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"determine[] viewing direction of the user to cause the client device to provide the user with the descriptive information of one of the landmarks at which the user is looking." For this additional reason, claim 1 should be allowed.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and all claims which depend from claim 1 (claims 2-7 and 28-29), should be allowed.

**B. Claim 28**

Claim 28 stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by Major.

Claim 28 specifically recites, "wherein the viewing direction sensor further determines the direction of the user to cause the client device to provide the user with a relative direction of one of the landmarks at which the user desires to look." Major's Figure 4 shows "a typical data pattern received at a mobile receiver from a fixed beacon station 12... ." (Major Col. 5, lines 7-8). Suppose in the Major system, a receiver subsystem 14 is stopped on the Oregon side of the state line in the region where the main lobe of the antenna transmits an Oregon indication (region D of Figure 4). A receiver subsystem 14 in the Major system would receive the region D signals (OR, OR, OR) regardless of whether the receiver subsystem is facing Oregon or California. Thus, Major fails to teach or suggest "to cause the client device to provide the user with a relative direction of one of the landmarks at which the user desires to look."

Claim 28 is dependent from claim 1 and is allowable for at least the same reasons, as well as for the additional limitations therein.

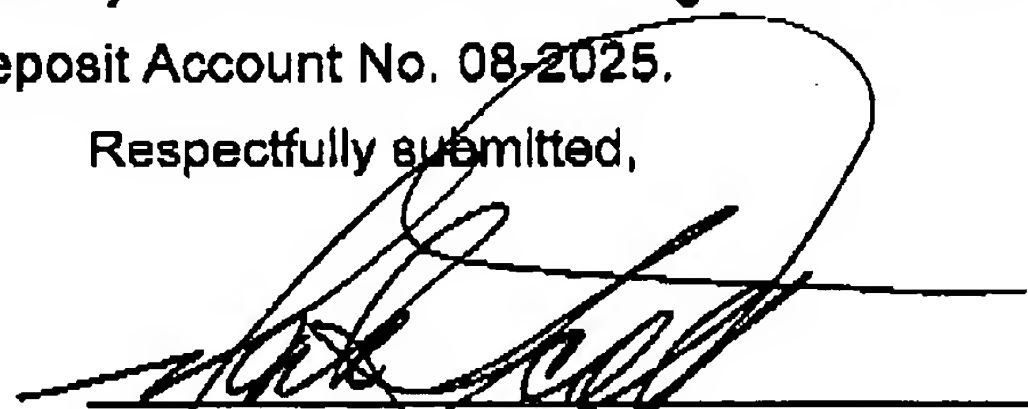
**III. CONCLUSION**

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

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Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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